



OFFICIAL STUDY GUIDE 2001 EDITION



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COLLEGE-LEVEL EXAMINATION PROGRAM

History of the United States II: 1865 to the Present

Description of the Examination

The Subject Examination in History of the United States II: 1865 to the Present covers material that is usually taught in the second semester of what is often a two-semester course in United States history. The exam covers the period of United States history from the end of the Civil War to the present, with the majority of questions on the twentieth century.

The exam contains approximately 120 questions to be answered in two separately timed 45-minute sections.

Knowledge and Skills Required

Questions on the exam require candidates to demonstrate one or more of the following abilities.

- Identification and description of historical phenomena (about 45 percent of the exam)
- Analysis and interpretation of historical phenomena (about 45 percent of the exam)
- Comparison and contrast of historical phenomena (about 10 percent of the exam)

The subject matter of the History of the United States II exam is drawn from the following topics.

➡ <i>Approximate Percent of Examination</i>	
35%	Political institutions and behavior and public policy
25%	Social developments
10%	Economic developments
15%	Cultural and intellectual developments
15%	Diplomacy and international relations

About one-third of the questions deal with the period from 1865 to 1914, and about two-thirds are on the period from 1915 to the present. The following are among the specific topics tested.

The motivations and character of American expansionism

The content of constitutional amendments and their interpretations by the Supreme Court

The changing nature of agricultural life

The development of American political parties

The emergence of regulatory and welfare-state legislation

The intellectual and political expressions of liberalism, conservatism, and other such movements

Long-term demographic trends

The process of economic growth and development

The changing occupational structure, nature of work, and labor organization

Immigration and the history of racial and ethnic minorities

Urbanization and industrialization

The causes and impacts of major wars in American history

Major movements and individual figures in the history of American arts and letters

Trends in the history of women and the family

Sample Questions

The following 40 questions are provided to give an indication of the types of items that appear on the History of the United States II exam. CLEP exams are designed so that average students completing a course in the subject can usually answer about half the questions correctly.

Before attempting to answer the sample questions, read all the information about the History of the United States II exam on the preceding pages. Additional suggestions for preparing for CLEP exams are provided in Chapter 1.

Try to answer correctly as many questions as possible. Then compare your answers with the correct answers, given at the end of this examination guide.

Directions: Each of the questions or incomplete statements below is followed by five suggested answers or completions. Select the one that is best in each case.

1. *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka* was a Supreme Court decision that

- (A) was a forerunner of the Kansas-Nebraska Act
- (B) established free public colleges in the United States
- (C) declared racially segregated public schools inherently unequal
- (D) established free public elementary and secondary schools in the United States
- (E) provided for federal support of parochial schools

(A) (B) (C) (D) (E)

2. The American Federation of Labor under the leadership of Samuel Gompers organized

- (A) skilled workers into craft unions in order to achieve economic gains
- (B) all industrial and agricultural workers into “one big union”
- (C) unskilled workers along industrial lines
- (D) women into the Women’s Trade Union League
- (E) workers into a fraternal organization to provide unemployment and retirement benefits

(A) (B) (C) (D) (E)

3. In his interpretation of the historical development of the United States, Frederick Jackson Turner focused on the importance of the

- (A) traditions of Western European culture
- (B) role of women in socializing children to become good citizens
- (C) historical consequences of the enslavement of Black people
- (D) conflict between capitalists and workers
- (E) frontier experience in fostering democracy

(A) (B) (C) (D) (E)

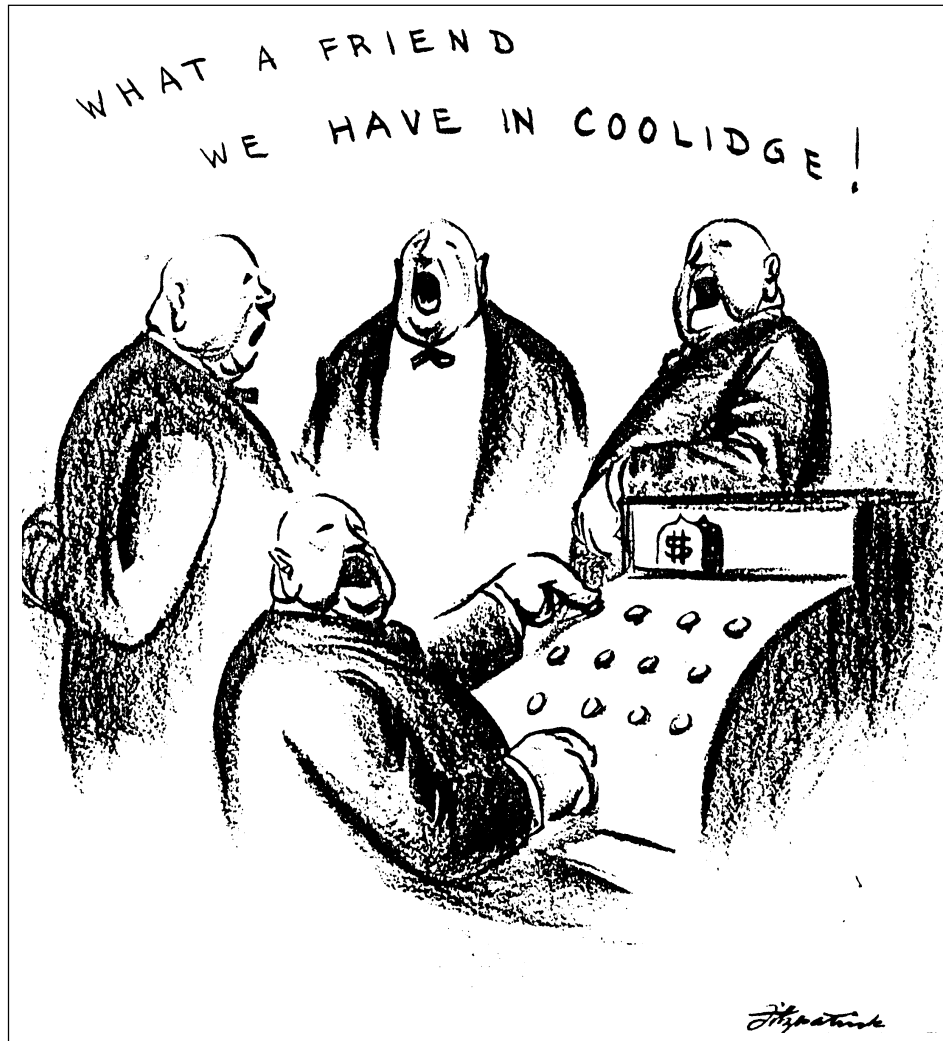
4. Between 1890 and 1914, most immigrants to the United States came from
- (A) southern and eastern Europe
 - (B) northern and western Europe
 - (C) Latin America
 - (D) Southeast Asia
 - (E) Canada
5. Which of the following is a correct statement about the United States at the close of the First World War?
- (A) It joined the League of Nations.
 - (B) It emerged as the world's leading creditor nation.
 - (C) It accorded diplomatic recognition to the Soviet Union.
 - (D) It repealed the amendment to the Constitution that allowed Prohibition.
 - (E) It received large reparations payments from Germany.
6. All of the following help to explain the presence of large numbers of expatriate American intellectuals in Europe during the 1920's EXCEPT the
- (A) repressive effects of Prohibition and the resurgence of conservatism in the United States
 - (B) attraction of European cities, especially Paris, as centers of innovation and creativity
 - (C) tradition among American writers of taking up temporary residence in Europe
 - (D) claims of young American writers and critics that American culture was materialistic and hostile to the development of their art
 - (E) European tradition of wealthy patrons supporting struggling American artists and writers

(A) (B) (C) (D) (E)

(A) (B) (C) (D) (E)

(A) (B) (C) (D) (E)

The Cash Register Chorus



Fitzpatrick in the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*.

7. The political cartoonist who drew this picture probably believed that
- (A) European nations were pleased with aid given them by the Coolidge administration
 - (B) governmental agencies were receiving too much financial support from the Coolidge administration
 - (C) American industrial and commercial leaders approved of the Coolidge administration's business policies
 - (D) consumers had benefited from the Federal Reserve Board's tight money policy from 1925 through 1928
 - (E) Congress was pleased by President Coolidge's accommodating stance toward pork barrel legislation

(A) (B) (C) (D) (E)

8. Which of the following is true of the forced relocation of Japanese Americans from the West Coast during the Second World War?
- (A) President Roosevelt claimed that military necessity justified the action.
 - (B) The Supreme Court declared the action unconstitutional.
 - (C) The relocation was implemented according to congressional provisions for the internment of dissidents.
 - (D) The Japanese Americans received the same treatment as that accorded German Americans and Italian Americans.
 - (E) Few of the Japanese Americans relocated were actually United States citizens.
- (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)
9. Which of the following is correct about United States involvement in the Vietnam War?
- (A) It was justified by invoking the Open Door policy.
 - (B) It was the exclusive responsibility of the Johnson and Nixon administrations.
 - (C) It came about only after a formal declaration of war.
 - (D) It was primarily anti-Soviet in purpose.
 - (E) It grew out of policy assumptions and commitments dating from the end of the Second World War.
- (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)
10. Which of the following generated the most anxiety about the possibility of nuclear war between the United States and the Soviet Union?
- (A) The Berlin Blockade
 - (B) The Cuban missile crisis
 - (C) The Pueblo incident
 - (D) The Suez Crisis
 - (E) The U-2 incident
- (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)

11. Which of the following would have been most likely to vote for William Jennings Bryan in 1896?
- (A) A Kansas farmer
 - (B) A Chicago industrial worker
 - (C) A Philadelphia homemaker
 - (D) A university professor of economics
 - (E) A New York Republican party member
- Ⓐ Ⓑ Ⓒ Ⓓ Ⓔ
12. A number of changes took place in the intellectual life of college-educated Americans between about 1880 and 1930. Which of the following changes is LEAST characteristic of this group during this period?
- (A) Expanded popularity of nonrational explanations for human behavior
 - (B) Rise of pluralistic and relativistic worldviews
 - (C) Accelerated professionalization of intellectual roles
 - (D) Growth in influence of religious fundamentalism
 - (E) Increased attention to the methods and outlook of the sciences
- Ⓐ Ⓑ Ⓒ Ⓓ Ⓔ



Museum of the City of New York.

13. The photograph above is representative of the social reform photography of

- (A) Jacob Riis
- (B) Ansel Adams
- (C) Alfred Stieglitz
- (D) Dorothea Lange
- (E) Margaret Bourke-White

(A) (B) (C) (D) (E)

14. All of the following were among Woodrow Wilson's Fourteen Points EXCEPT
- (A) a general association of nations
 - (B) freedom to navigate the high seas in peace and war
 - (C) an independent Poland
 - (D) a partitioned Germany
 - (E) abolition of secret diplomacy
- (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)
15. "The productive methods and facilities of modern industry have been completely transformed. . . . Skilled artisans make up only a small proportion of the workers. Obviously the bargaining strength of employees, under these conditions, no longer rests in organizations of skilled artisans. It is dependent upon a national union representing all employees — whether skilled or unskilled, or whether working by brain or brawn — in each basic industry."
- The statement above best represents the views of
- (A) Emma Goldman
 - (B) John L. Lewis
 - (C) William Green
 - (D) Bernard M. Baruch
 - (E) Jane Addams
- (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)
16. Many Mexicans migrated to the United States during the First World War because
- (A) revolution in Mexico had caused social upheaval and dislocation
 - (B) the United States offered special homestead rights to relatives of Mexican Americans serving in the armed forces
 - (C) the war in Europe had disrupted the Mexican economy
 - (D) American Progressives generally held liberal views on the issue of racial assimilation
 - (E) the United States government recruited Mexican workers to accelerate the settlement of the Southwest
- (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)

The Only Way We Can Save Her



Carey Orr. *The Tribune* (Chicago), 1939.

17. This cartoon from the 1930's suggests that the cartoonist
- (A) wished to see Europe destroyed
 - (B) believed that Japan was a greater threat to the United States than Germany was
 - (C) did not distinguish among the European belligerents in terms of war aims or forms of government
 - (D) believed that the United States must enter the war to make the world safe for democracy
 - (E) believed that Europe was doomed to communism

(A) (B) (C) (D) (E)

18. American participation in the Second World War had which of the following major effects on the home front?
- (A) A movement of women into heavy industry
 - (B) The breakdown of racial segregation in the South
 - (C) The growth of isolationism in the Midwest
 - (D) The introduction of a system of national health insurance
 - (E) A decline in farm income
- (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)
19. President Truman's decision to recall General MacArthur from his command of United Nations forces in Korea was primarily based on the principle of
- (A) containment of communism
 - (B) limited rather than total warfare
 - (C) isolationism rather than interventionism
 - (D) civilian control of the military
 - (E) self-determination for all free people
- (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)
20. In which of the following cases did the Supreme Court decision substantially increase the congressional representation of urban areas with high concentrations of Black and Hispanic residents?
- (A) *Gitlow v. New York*
 - (B) *Baker v. Carr*
 - (C) *Dennis et al. v. United States*
 - (D) *Miranda v. Arizona*
 - (E) *Gideon v. Wainwright*
- (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)

21. Which of the following constitutes a significant change in the treatment of American Indians during the last half of the nineteenth century?

- (A) The beginning of negotiations with individual tribes
- (B) The start of a removal policy
- (C) The abandonment of the reservation system
- (D) The admission of American Indians to United States citizenship
- (E) The division of the tribal lands among individual members

Ⓐ Ⓑ Ⓒ Ⓓ Ⓔ

22. The anticompetition laws passed by numerous states in the late 1880's were a response to which of the following organizational innovations?

- (A) The creation and growth of international cartels
- (B) The development of industry-wide trade associations
- (C) The joining of skilled and unskilled workers in industrial unions
- (D) The formation of agricultural marketing cooperatives
- (E) The use of stockholding trusts to create business oligopolies

Ⓐ Ⓑ Ⓒ Ⓓ Ⓔ



Wadsworth Atheneum, Hartford.
The Ella Sumner and Mary Catlin Sumner Collection Fund.

23. The 1907 painting shown above is representative of the
- (A) Impressionist painting of Mary Cassatt
 - (B) Hudson River school art of Asher B. Durand
 - (C) Surrealism of Giorgio de Chirico
 - (D) Abstract Expressionist work of Jackson Pollock
 - (E) Ashcan school art of John Sloan

(A) (B) (C) (D) (E)

24. Reformers of the Progressive era proposed all of the following changes in city government and politics at the turn of the century EXCEPT

- (A) a large city council elected by wards
- (B) civil service
- (C) home rule for cities
- (D) city manager and commission governments
- (E) nonpartisan elections

(A) (B) (C) (D) (E)

25. In the period 1890-1915, all of the following were generally true about Black Americans EXCEPT

- (A) Voting rights previously gained were denied through changes in state laws and constitutions.
- (B) Back-to-Africa movements were widely popular among Black residents of cities.
- (C) Black leaders disagreed on the principal strategy for attaining equal rights.
- (D) Numerous physical attacks on Black individuals occurred in both the North and the South.
- (E) Black people from the rural South migrated to both southern and northern cities.

(A) (B) (C) (D) (E)

26. Franklin D. Roosevelt was LEAST successful in securing congressional support for which of the following?

- (A) Negotiation of tariff agreements by the executive department
- (B) Reduction of the gold content of the dollar
- (C) Removal of the restraints of the antitrust acts to permit voluntary trade associations
- (D) The levying of processing taxes on agricultural products
- (E) Reform of the judiciary to permit the enlargement of the Supreme Court

(A) (B) (C) (D) (E)

27. The main purpose of the Wagner Act (National Labor Relations Act) of 1935 was to
- (A) end the sit-down strike in Flint, Michigan
 - (B) settle the struggle between the AFL and the CIO
 - (C) guarantee workers a minimum wage
 - (D) ensure workers' right to organize and bargain collectively
 - (E) exempt organized labor from the Sherman Antitrust Act
- (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)
28. Which of the following was the LEAST important consideration in the United States decision to drop the atomic bombs on Japan in August 1945?
- (A) Dropping the bombs would give a new and powerful argument to the Japanese government to cease fighting.
 - (B) Dropping the bombs would presumably shorten the war and therefore save the lives of American soldiers that would be lost in an invasion of the Japanese homeland.
 - (C) Scientists wished to demonstrate to Congress that the \$2 billion spent, after long debate, on the six-year Manhattan Project had not been wasted.
 - (D) Scientists could propose no acceptable technical demonstration of the atomic bomb likely to convince Japan that further fighting was futile.
 - (E) The President and the State Department hoped to end the war in the Far East without Soviet assistance.
- (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)
29. In the period 1945 to 1965, which of the following constituted the largest group of immigrants to the United States?
- (A) Survivors of Second World War concentration camps
 - (B) Africans
 - (C) Southeast Asians and Chinese
 - (D) Foreign-born wives and dependents of military personnel
 - (E) Mexicans
- (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)

30. Reform activity during the Progressive era was similar to that of the 1960's in all of the following ways EXCEPT
- (A) Civil rights for Black Americans were supported by the federal government.
 - (B) Reform activity was encouraged by strong and active Presidents.
 - (C) Many reformers advocated changes in the area of women's rights.
 - (D) Governmental reform initiatives were curtailed by war.
 - (E) Reform occurred despite the absence of severe economic depression.
- (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)
31. The Reconstruction Acts of 1867 provided for
- (A) temporary Union military supervision of the former Confederacy
 - (B) federal monetary support for the resettlement of Black Americans in Africa
 - (C) denial of property-holding and voting rights to Black Americans
 - (D) implementation of anti-Black vagrancy laws in the South
 - (E) lenient readmission of the formerly Confederate states to the Union
- (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)
32. The second Sioux War (1875-1876), in which Custer was defeated at the Battle of Little Bighorn, was caused by all of the following EXCEPT
- (A) the extension of the route of the Northern Pacific Railroad
 - (B) a concentrated effort on the part of the major Protestant denominations to convert the Sioux to Christianity
 - (C) the gold rush in the Black Hills
 - (D) corruption within the Department of the Interior
 - (E) overland migration of settlers to the Pacific Northwest
- (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)

33. "This, then, is held to be the duty of the man of wealth: to consider all surplus revenues which come to him simply as trust funds, which he is called upon to administer and strictly bound as a matter of duty to administer in the manner which, in his judgment, is best calculated to produce the most beneficial results for the community — the man of wealth thus becoming the mere agent and trustee for his poorer brethren."

The sentiments expressed above are most characteristic of

- (A) transcendentalism
- (B) pragmatism
- (C) the Gospel of Wealth
- (D) the Social Gospel
- (E) social Darwinism

(A) (B) (C) (D) (E)

34. The so-called lost generation after the First World War was

- (A) represented by Ernest Hemingway in the figures of Jake Barnes and Lady Brett Ashley
- (B) depicted in Sylvia Plath's *The Bell Jar*
- (C) glorified by T. S. Eliot in "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock"
- (D) portrayed as the principal subject of Sinclair Lewis' *Babbitt*
- (E) portrayed as the principal subject of Theodore Dreiser's *An American Tragedy*

(A) (B) (C) (D) (E)

35. "I believe that it must be the policy of the United States to support free peoples who are resisting attempted subjugation by armed minorities or by outside pressures. I believe that we must assist free peoples to work out their own destinies in their own way. I believe that our help should be primarily through economic and financial aid which is essential to economic stability and orderly political processes."

The statement above is taken from

- (A) Woodrow Wilson's request for a declaration of war against Germany (1917)
- (B) Herbert Hoover's statement on Japanese aggression in China (1931)
- (C) Franklin D. Roosevelt's request for a declaration of war against Japan (1941)
- (D) Harry S. Truman's request for funds to support Greece and Turkey against communism (1947)
- (E) an address by Jeane Kirkpatrick to the United Nations (1983)

(A) (B) (C) (D) (E)

36. "The problem with hatred and violence is that they intensify the fears of the White majority, and leave them less ashamed of their prejudices toward Negroes. In the guilt and confusion confronting our society, violence only adds to chaos. It deepens the brutality of the oppressor and increases the bitterness of the oppressed. Violence is the antithesis of creativity and wholeness. It destroys community and makes brotherhood impossible."

During the 1960's all the following Black leaders would probably have supported the view expressed above EXCEPT

- (A) Roy Wilkins
- (B) Martin Luther King, Jr.
- (C) James Farmer
- (D) Stokely Carmichael
- (E) Whitney M. Young, Jr.

(A) (B) (C) (D) (E)

37. Following the Second World War, President Truman was unable to expand significantly his predecessor's New Deal programs primarily because of
- (A) the continuation of the Great Depression
 - (B) the need to maintain a large military force in Asia
 - (C) budget expenditures required to rebuild Europe
 - (D) controversy surrounding the Truman Doctrine
 - (E) the domination of Congress by Republicans and conservative Democrats
- (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)
38. Which of the following was the greatest source of tension between the United States and the Soviet Union during the Second World War?
- (A) The Soviet refusal to fight Japan
 - (B) The delay on the part of the United States in opening a second front in Europe
 - (C) Lend-Lease allocations
 - (D) The United States refusal to share atomic secrets
 - (E) The Soviet massacre of Polish officers at Katyn Forest
- (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)
39. Franklin D. Roosevelt's farm policy was primarily designed to
- (A) reduce farm prices to make food cheaper for the consumer
 - (B) increase production by opening new lands to farmers
 - (C) reduce production in order to boost farm prices
 - (D) use price and wage controls to stabilize farm prices
 - (E) end federal controls over agriculture
- (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)
40. In the twentieth century, United States Supreme Court decisions have done all of the following EXCEPT
- (A) end the experiment in Prohibition
 - (B) ban official prayers in the public schools
 - (C) protect a woman's right to an abortion
 - (D) protect property rights
 - (E) expand minority rights
- (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)

Answers to Sample Questions

History of the United States II: 1865 to the Present

- | | |
|-------|-------|
| 1. C | 26. E |
| 2. A | 27. D |
| 3. E | 28. C |
| 4. A | 29. E |
| 5. B | 30. A |
| 6. E | 31. A |
| 7. C | 32. B |
| 8. A | 33. C |
| 9. E | 34. A |
| 10. B | 35. D |
| 11. A | 36. D |
| 12. D | 37. E |
| 13. A | 38. B |
| 14. D | 39. C |
| 15. B | 40. A |
| 16. A | |
| 17. C | |
| 18. A | |
| 19. D | |
| 20. B | |
| 21. E | |
| 22. E | |
| 23. E | |
| 24. A | |
| 25. B | |
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